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FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1886.

The Blair Bill.

It is taking time by the forelock to be writing campaign articles in Virginia just now. Yet this is what the *Valley Virginian*, now the leading Mahometan or Republican paper in this State, is doing. It arranges the Democratic party as for a crime because more Republicans than Democrats voted for the Blair bill upon the question of its passage in the United States Senate, although the Republicans have a majority of eight in that body. We have heretofore proved by incontestable evidence that almost every representative man amongst the Democrats in the Senate voted for the bill. We might say that no Democrat of national reputation voted against the bill, but that all such Democrats voted for it. The Democrats who voted for it are Governor VANCE and General RAMSON of North Carolina, Governor COLQUITT of Georgia, BERRY of Arkansas, Governor BLACKBURN of Kentucky, Governor CALL of Florida, EUSTIS and GIBSON of Louisiana, GEORGE, once Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Mississippi, JACKSON of Tennessee, JONES of Arkansas, KENNA of West Virginia, PAXSON of Ohio, PUGH of Alabama, VOORHIES of Indiana, and WALTHALL of Mississippi.

General WADE HAMPTON and Governor JOE BROWN would have voted for the bill if they had not been paired. So would Mr. CAMDEN, of West Virginia, who was paired with Mr. ALDRICH, a Republican.

The bill passed the Senate by a vote of 35 yeas to 12 nays. Mr. BLAINE's two Senators from Maine, HALE and FRY, both voted against the bill.

Who can be made to believe that the Democrats as a party are opposed to the Blair bill in the face of the facts we have stated? The people are too shrewd to be deceived into that belief.

Nevertheless, the Democratic congressmen from Virginia may learn a lesson from the attempt of a Republican paper to make capital against the Democratic party on this question. Mr. TUCKER is the only Democratic congressman from this State who is known to be opposed to the Blair bill, and he represents the district in which the *Valley Virginian* is published. It is fair to assume that that fact had some thing to do with the production of the article upon which we are commenting, especially as one of the editors of that paper was Mr. TUCKER's competitor for a seat in Congress in 1884. However, the Democrats of that district are not all likely to nominate to fill the place which Mr. TUCKER has declined to fill longer a candidate opposed to the Blair bill, the last Democratic State Convention having endorsed that measure of justice to the South.

A word to the wise is sufficient. If the Democratic congressmen from Virginia desire to provide for their reelection next fall, they cannot serve their ambition more effectively in any other way than by securing the passage of the Blair bill by the present House of Representatives.

Senator GEORGE, of Mississippi, once a judge of the Supreme Court of that State, made in the Senate recently, as we have heretofore stated, a speech in favor of the Blair bill, in which he handled his opponents so easily that we cannot but wish he would try to enlighten that body on the subject of the right of the Senate to demand all the papers filed in any of the departments, whether the President of the United States desires those papers to be sent to the Senate or not. We referred a few days ago to a good many of the points made by Mr. GEORGE in favor of the Blair bill. These points are not what we have alluded to above. What we there refer to is his readiness of resort as shown whenever any senator interrupted him during the delivery of his speech on that bill. For example:

Mr. MORGAN: That is not a constitutional question. I supposed that the ex-Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Mississippi could certainly take a distinction between a question of policy and one of constitutional law. I had that opinion of him.

Mr. GEORGE: I am very sorry to lose the good opinion of the Senator from Alabama, but I think before I get through he will find out that I have got as much respect for his constitutional opinions as he has for mine. [Laughter.]

Again:

Mr. MORGAN: I do not suppose the Senator thinks I am committed to every constitutional question that ever was enacted in the world, as he seems to think he is obliged to be, because, at the request of some friend, I offered a resolution in the Senate.

Mr. GEORGE: That is the first time I ever heard it announced that a senator had a right to make a proposition to violate the Constitution of the United States out of courtesy for his friends.

Once more:

Mr. MORGAN: The Senator is very willing to come out of his shell, but I am not so sure that he can do so.

Mr. GEORGE: I am not so sure that he can do so.

Mr. GEORGE: I am not so sure that he can do so.

trush as that which he may be able to find in my record.

Mr. GEORGE: I am very much obliged to the honorable Senator for the complimentary manner in which he has alluded to my remarks. It so happens that when a senator undertakes to follow the course of the Senator from Alabama he is compelled by the necessity of the case to deal with trash, for there is little else in the record of the Senator except what can be denominated by the word "trash."

These are merely witty retorts. He was as happy, however, in his serious arguments upon points raised by his opponents as he was in the retorts quoted above.

Cold Truth.

The *Macon Telegraph* says: "The South is a little nauseated with this alleged 'wealth and enterprise and immigration from the North.' The South has been built up as far as it is built mainly through the pluck and enterprise of her own people." There is a good deal of cold truth in the above. While we are not disposed to underestimate what wealth and enterprise and immigration from the North have done for the South, certainly it is that the South relied solely upon crying unto HERCULES she would still be in the mud.

In Advance of His State.

An opponent of the Blair bill attempts to make capital out of the fact that Senator BLAIR is not sustained by his own people. It says: "Senator BLAIR, of New Hampshire, who has fought his \$7,000,000 bill for general education through the Senate after a four years' battle, meets with the harshest criticism in his own State." Well, that proves nothing except that Senator BLAIR is a good deal in advance of his State and is not a demagogue.

Retort.

Retort county votes under the local-option law on the 15th of April, and West Point on the 13th.

No such election can take place anywhere in the State after the 27th of April and before the 27th of May, because the law provides that such elections must be held at least thirty days before or after any regular election. So that those who wish the question to be settled at once, and business to resume its accustomed channels, have no time to lose; for the writ of election must be issued at least thirty days before the election. Therefore no such writ can be issued after the 25th of March. Six more days, and the spring campaign under the local-option law will have ended.

The discussion between Mr. EDMUNDS and Mr. PUGH has up to this time been conducted with dignity and a due regard to the decorum of the Senate. Neither gentleman, however, has compromised himself in the least, or yielded to his opponent a single point of the argument.

It appears, too, that the President and Mr. EDMUNDS have not thought proper to become personal enemies the one of the other on account of a difference of opinion as to the powers of the Executive and the Senate.

The Philadelphia *News* says: "There is no one on the Democratic side of the Senate who is able to compete with Senator EDMUNDS in constitutional argument. There is no one who can answer him and prove him wrong, because he is right."

The *News*'s logic is about on a par with that of Senator EDMUNDS.

The Virginia *Medical Monthly* for March is on our table. LAMON B. EDWARDS, M.D., editor and proprietor, Richmond.

BRIEF COMMENT.

The Boston *Herald* heads an article "Bottle Bottled." Suggestive, to say the least.

"Mr. GLADSTONE has a policy, and he intends to play it." But has he the right combination?

There is a slight suspicion in the public mind that it is about time for EDMUNDS to quit his foolishness.

"Licenses are going to be higher, but drinks are tending downward in price." Is not the tendency of drinks always downward?

The Philadelphia *North American* says: "CLEVELAND may be loved for the enemies he has made." Pretty rough on EDMUNDS.

"Fencing may be a manly art, but not one farmer's son in a dozen takes to it kindly." But the average politician takes to it very kindly.

If our Georgia contemporaries really wish to keep the negroes from emigrating to the West they should proceed to prove that western watermelons are small and scarce.

The Philadelphia *Times* says: "It would not be out of place to call Mount Joy (the seat of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home) Mount Sorrow." It certainly presents a sorry spectacle.

"The Boston *Herald* thinks the Senate should make a little better record for attending to its own business before undertaking to manage the President's." There is a good deal of horse-sense in that.

Governor Bullock.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

I have waited in vain for some one else to say what I now say: In your Sunday-morning's issue, page 3, under the heading, "Dr. Armstrong's Case," in speaking of ex-Governor Bullock's dissatisfaction at the suspension of Dr. Armstrong by Bishop Beck with after he had been found guilty by the ecclesiastical court, your correspondent tells us that ex-Governor Bullock says he "will withdraw from the Episcopal Church."

I regret that you did not, at the time, inform your readers that ex-Governor Bullock was the carpet-bag Governor of Georgia immediately after the war.

The knowledge of that fact would have reconciled all who know him or know of him to his withdrawal from our communion. EPISCOPALIAN.

March 10, 1886.

Nothing tries the patience of a man more than to listen to a backing cough which he knows could easily be cured by investing 25 cents in a bottle of Dr. Bull's Cough-Syrup.

RELIGIOUS WORLD.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE OF THE M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH--SECOND DAY.

Religious Services--Various Reports--Characteristics--Publication--Education--To the Class of the Fourth Year.

(Special telegram to the Dispatch.)

STANTON, Va., March 11.--The second day's session of the Baltimore Annual Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, opened at 9:30 o'clock this morning. Religious service was conducted by Rev. Nelson Head, D. D. The roll was called, and most of the absentees of yesterday answered to their names.

On motion, the further calling of the roll will be dispensed with. The minutes of yesterday were read and adopted.

W. H. May, Esq., of Alexandria, Va., was recognized as a lay delegate, and placed on the Sunday-School Board in the place of an absent member.

A report from the secretary of the Church-Extension Society was read and referred to the Conference Board of Church Extension.

Rev. J. B. McFerrin, D. D., agent of the Southern Methodist Episcopal House, of Nashville, Tenn., addressed the conference in the interest of that institution. He referred to the publications of the house as being second to none in the country, and during the course of his remarks mentioned the fact that Bishop McTear's "History of Methodism" was to be reprinted in England.

A report from the president of the Wesleyan Female Institute was read. The report shows the institute to be in a flourishing condition, never, perhaps, enjoying a greater degree of prosperity than at the present time. There are a large number of day-pupils and one hundred and fifteen boarding pupils from eighteen States. There was a successful revival of religion during the year. The report was referred to the Board of Education.

The members of the class of the third year were called, and after the report of the Committee of Examination as to their knowledge of the prescribed course of study they were advanced to the class of the fourth year. The members of the class are: John N. McCormick, Jefferson D. Martin, Charles W. Mark, Charles B. Sutton, D. M. James, James L. Henderson, and John O. Tackett.

The characters of the following elders of the Baltimore district were examined and passed: C. M. Brown, W. H. D. Harper, P. B. Smith, B. S. Higley, J. Edgar Wilson, Thomas W. Brown, B. W. Bond, H. P. Hamill, J. H. Boyd, J. W. Wolfe, J. P. Dagg, A. W. Waller, W. A. McDonald, F. H. Shipley, and W. K. Boyfe.

The characters of the following elders of the East Baltimore district were also passed: J. W. Duffey, W. J. Young, O. F. Burgess, B. W. Waters, J. W. Grubb, T. G. Nevitt, J. R. Cunningham, W. H. Sanders, S. R. Dolly, J. J. Carden, and B. F. Hall. Washington district: S. K. Cox, S. W. Haddaway, J. H. Dill, J. E. Williams, C. L. Jamerson, Ramsey Smith, C. C. Beall, Isaac W. Cather, J. R. Vanhorne, and A. A. P. Neal.

Rev. B. F. Hall was added to the Committee on the Publication of the Conference Minutes.

Rev. Dr. Hall and Dr. Preston, of the Presbyterian Church, were introduced to the Conference to-day.

The large church was filled to its utmost capacity with spectators. Rev. J. B. McFerrin, D. D., of Nashville, Tenn., preached to-night. There was immense crowd in attendance, and hundreds were turned away who could not find secure standing room.

DANVILLE BAPTIST CONGRESS.

Yesterday's Discussions--Remarks of Dr. Thomas and Others.

(Special telegram to the Dispatch.)

DANVILLE, Va., March 11.--The Congress met at 10 o'clock--Professor Cooke in the chair. The first subject for discussion was "Points of Agreement and Difference as to the Lord's Supper Between Baptists and Other Christians." Dr. W. D. Thomas, of Richmond, was the first speaker. He began by saying there is too great a disposition to discuss denominational doctrine tending to lead people from the truth as it is in Jesus. Baptists held many things in common with other denominations. They are sometimes supposed to differ from others on many points where they really agree with them. Baptists agree with others that the Lord's Supper is an ordinance of perpetual obligation; that the Supper is a scripturally-prescribed external act; that the act is essential to the ordinance, but that the ordinance is unavailing without the influence of the Spirit. Baptists agree that the Lord's Supper is to be repeatedly celebrated, and that qualification is necessary to the part of the recipient, and also as to the qualification required. All denominations require a profession of faith. Some require only the reverential spirit, and others only a certain degree of religious instruction, and that one assume for himself certain vows made for him by others. In addition to these spiritual qualifications Baptists agree with others that persons must be baptized before partaking. Baptists differ as to what constitutes baptism, but agree that baptism is necessary. Baptism is the putting on of Christ not in spirit but in ordinance. The Lord's Supper symbolizes continued fellowship with Christ. Each ordinance represents the same truth, but in its different relations. Baptism symbolizes entrance upon a new life; the Lord's Supper continuance therein. Therefore, baptism is observed but once, while communion is observed repeatedly. To reverse the order of things is to confuse and to confuse the point of difference between the Baptists and other denominations. Concerning the nature and functions of the ordinance all agree that the ordinance is symbolic, though differing in what it symbolizes. All agree that the ordinance is in part a means of grace.

The doctrine of transubstantiation and its various modified forms were touched on. The Baptists believe that the elements are merely signs, memorials, confessions, and nothing more, as to what constitutes baptism, but agree that baptism is necessary. Baptism is the putting on of Christ not in spirit but in ordinance. The Lord's Supper symbolizes continued fellowship with Christ. Each ordinance represents the same truth, but in its different relations. Baptism symbolizes entrance upon a new life; the Lord's Supper continuance therein. Therefore, baptism is observed but once, while communion is observed repeatedly. To reverse the order of things is to confuse and to confuse the point of difference between the Baptists and other denominations. Concerning the nature and functions of the ordinance all agree that the ordinance is symbolic, though differing in what it symbolizes. All agree that the ordinance is in part a means of grace.

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they cultivate that charity which suffereth all things and is kind. Dr. Hatcher also discussed the question.

Rev. H. L. Quarter, of Dr. Hatcher also discussed the question. The financial problem of the Church was the next question.

Dr. J. W. McCown, of Gordonsville, was the first speaker. In the course of his remarks he bore down on church affairs, concerts, &c., as a means of raising money for church purposes.

His remarks were characterized by a considerable amount of humor, and his remarks were well received by the ladies who conducted the enterprises.

Mr. William Ellyson, a bachelor, made a good address on the necessity of training children in the grace of giving, and brought down the house when he referred to "our wives and children."

In the discussion to-night on the relation of the Church to local options, a paper was read from Dr. L. B. Anderson, of Norfolk, in which he took strong ground against the Church having anything to do with the movement. Dr. Anderson was not present, but the paper caused severe criticism. All the speakers took the ground that the Baptist Church is in hearty sympathy with the local-option movement.

The Blair Bill.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

As you know, oftentimes it is best to speak very plainly, and there are times when it is next to a crime not to do it. The outlook in Virginia is not now by any means flattering to the Democracy of the State as regards carrying the next year's election.

The Blair bill, which is now before the House of Representatives, is a bill to have the Blair education bill recently passed in the Senate passed by the present Democratic House, then we had just about as well make up our minds to see that the Blair bill is passed.

Local causes have had and are still having a tendency to weaken the Democratic party of Virginia, and if the Blair bill is killed by a Democratic House of Representatives the chances are, I think, that it will bring our defeat to the party in our State. The people are strong for that bill, and they are in no mood to be humbugged by any "hair-splitting" constitutional objections to it. There is not a Democratic Congressman from Virginia, in my opinion, who would stand a ghost of a chance of being returned to Congress if he were to vote against the bill. Why, sir, I believe that even if Mr. Tucker were to vote against it, and desired afterwards (which it seems he does not) to be returned to Congress, his own party would not support him, and he would be a political outcast.

It took hard work last year to satisfy the Democratic voters of the State that it was not the fault of the Democrats in the House of Representatives that the bill was not passed by that body at the previous session of Congress. The same excuses will not pass in the next election, and our representatives had better know the fact, especially if they have any desire to be re-elected to Congress again. The House of Representatives is Democratic by a large majority, and having the power to pass the bill, the party so far as Virginia is concerned will be held strictly responsible if it is not done. Not only must our representatives (if they desire to see our party in the majority in the State) vote for the Blair bill, but they must work for its passage to an extent that will win, for if the bill is killed by a Democratic House, then I predict a long farewell to the further political careers of our representatives.

Chinese Travelling in Bond.

LONDON, Ont., March 10.--A circular has been issued by the superintendent of the southern division of the Grand Trunk railway ordering that hereafter all Chinese going over the road will be passed through in bond, and that conductors will be held responsible to see that none of the Mongolians are allowed to stop in Canada.

Personal.

Eliza Wheeler-Wilcox says nothing taller than a woman's vanity like being told she is not like other men.

Senator Allison, of Iowa, is credited with a desire to lecture before the students of Yale on the silver question.

General Santa Anna's widow waits for death in an easy rocking-chair, enveloped by clouds of cigarette smoke.

George Kennan, the American traveler, who has been roaming around the Kamchatkan corner of Asia, has reached Irkutsk on the way home.

Onontyoh, a full-blooded Indian, graduated No. 18 in a class of forty-eight at the Buffalo Medical College. He is the first of his race to take honors in a course of medicine in this country.

Charles Crocker, the San Francisco millionaire, is said to have an ambition to possess a finer collection of paintings than that which William H. Vanderbilt gathered. He buys none but the finest.

W. Bliss Baker, the landscape painter, contemplates a trip across the continent this summer, having commissions from some railroad magnates to paint some pictures of scenery among the Rockies.

Thomas Stevens, going around the world on a bicycle, has special correspondent for *Cycling*, left تهران on Thursday on his way to Calcutta. He is in good health and confident of penetrating China.

Colonel Gough, whose marriage to Miss Hemming was one of the notable society events of the London season, had the peculiar middle name of Sutej, after the river near which his ancestor, Lord Gough, won his victories.

Edmund Arthur Marcus Sandys, brother of Baron Sandys, has been declared a bankrupt by a London court. One of the causes of his embarrassment is the cost of the racing-stable which he has maintained in this country.

M. Bougereau's latest pictures are shown in London. They are entitled "An Echo from the Deep," which represents a life-sized, naked nymph kneeling on the seashore, near a rocky place, and listening to the murmur of a shell she holds at her ear--and "Early Duty"--a damsel with a child.

Lawrence Barrett's latest notion of a model theatre is that it should be in the centre of the block in the most fashionable part of a city. Its outer walls should be as plain as possible and entirely hidden from the street. Within the effect should be simple, large and open, the wall spaces being decorated with old gold, and the seats upholstered in crimson plush. Such a theatre would cost about \$150,000.